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A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

for the

Y E A R E N D I N G

31st. D E C E M B E R, 1956.

OAKHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

1956.

My Lord, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my eighteenth Annual Report dealing with matters within my responsibility regarding public health and preventive medicine :-

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	52,551
Registrar General's estimate of population.....	8,620
Number of inhabited houses.....	2,187
Rateable Value.....	£75,827
Sum representated by a penny rate.....Estimated	£ 320

VITAL STATISTICS.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Live Births - Legitimate	79	68	147
Illegitimate	2	5	7
Still Births- Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-

	<u>Rate for District.</u>	<u>Rate for England and Wales.</u>
Birth Rate	20	15.7
Death Rate	7.8	11.7
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births.	12.9	23.8

These statistics are all very satisfactory.



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CAUSES OF DEATH.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach.	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus.	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast.	-	1
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms.	3	2
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System.	3	5
Coronary Disease Angina.	6	0
Hypertension with Heart Disease.	1	1
Other Heart Disease.	1	12
Other Circulatory Disease.	1	4
Influenza.	1	0
Pneumonia.	1	0
Bronchitis.	1	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System.	-	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum.	2	0
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases.	4	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	25	31
	<hr/>	<hr/>

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health. J.Young, M.B., Ch.B.,
D.P.H.Camb.

The Medical Officer of Health acts for the Leicestershire & Rutland Combined Districts in which this District is included.

Sanitary Inspector. G.E.Wells, Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspector's Examination, Royal Sanitary Institute Meat and Other Foods, and Certificates General Hygiene and Sanitary Engineering.

The Sanitary Inspector is also the Surveyor of the Rural District.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The following examinations from your area were carried out during the year at the Public Health Laboratory, Leicester :-

Throat and Nose Swabs.....	10
Faeces and Urine.....	28
Blood.....	9
Sputa.....	9
Vaginal Swab.....	1
Milk.....	6
Water.....	22
Misc.....	5

The good co-operation with the Public Health Laboratory service continued during the year and the assistance given has been of great value.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Notifiable Disease (other than Tuberculosis) during 1956.

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Total Cases Notified.</u>	<u>Cases Admitted to Hospital.</u>	<u>Total Deaths.</u>
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-
Measles	10	1	-
Whooping Cough	15	1	-
Pneumonia	2	-	1
Dysentery	2	1	-
Encephalitis	1	1	-

The incidence of infectious disease was light.
Again we had no Diphtheria - the last case in this District was notified in 1951.
The Encephalitis occurred at the North Luffenham Aerodrome.
We were fortunate in being free from Poliomyelitis.

Disease	Under 1	<u>1</u> 2	<u>2</u> 3	<u>3</u> 4	<u>4</u> 5	<u>5</u> 10	<u>10</u> 15	<u>15</u> 20	<u>20</u> 35	<u>35</u> 45	<u>45</u> 65	<u>65</u> & over
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	1	5	-	4	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Whooping Cough	1	1	3	2	2	4	2	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age		New Cases.				Deaths.			
		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary.	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	- 15	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
15	- 25	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	- 35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	- 45	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	- 65	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

Number of Samples taken for analysis :-		
(a) from wells		1
(b) from pipe supply		10
Results from Samples taken :-		
(a) from wells	- satisfactory	-
	unsatisfactory	1
(b) from pipe supply	- satisfactory	6
	unsatisfactory	4
Number of wells :-		
(a) closed.....		3
(b) cleansed, repairs, etc.,		5
Number of cases in which piped supply was provided.....		395
Number of Parishes with piped water supply:-		
(a) from public mains		21
(b) from private reservoirs.....		4
Number of Parishes without a piped water supply.....		3

During the course of 1956 the work of laying mains for the Council's new Regional Scheme to supply water in the parishes of Burley, Cottesmore, Greetham, Langham and Stretton was completed, and the connections to the various premises were being made by Contractors. The additional work of laying mains to the villages of Whitwell and Hambleton was also carried out. A connection was made through Ashwell from the new system to link up with existing services in Market Overton, Whissendine, and Teigh, and the supply extended to Thistleton. The new Regional Scheme now supplies water to the larger part of the district from the Clipsham Ford pumping station at Empingham which is augmented by the water from Elm Tree Spring about half a mile away.

An opportunity was afforded to Members of the Council to acquaint themselves with the operation of this new system of water supply, by a tour of the works including the Burley water tower and Clipsham Ford pumping station on 29th. October last, when the original part of the Scheme had been completed. It will be seen from the very large increase in the number of premises in the District where a piped supply is now provided, as set out in the table above, that great progress in this direction has been made in the parishes concerned. A number of premises were also connected in villages where a piped water supply already existed, and repairs were executed to mains and pumping plant as necessary.

THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES

1776-1789

The first of the great principles of the American Revolution was the right of the people to alter or to abolish their government, and to institute a new one, when it became necessary for them to do so. This principle was the basis of the Declaration of Independence, and it was the basis of the Constitution of the United States.

The second of the great principles of the American Revolution was the principle of the separation of powers. This principle was the basis of the Constitution of the United States, and it was the basis of the system of government which we have today.

The third of the great principles of the American Revolution was the principle of the right of the people to a trial by jury. This principle was the basis of the Constitution of the United States, and it was the basis of the system of government which we have today.

The fourth of the great principles of the American Revolution was the principle of the right of the people to a fair trial. This principle was the basis of the Constitution of the United States, and it was the basis of the system of government which we have today.

Particulars of the supplies to the villages where the Oakham Rural District has water undertakings are as follows :-

	<u>Piped to Houses.</u>	<u>Houses supplied from stand-pipe.</u>	<u>Farm Supplies.</u>
Lyndon	29	-	3
Edith Weston	75	-	7
Empingham	146	22	14
Manton	80	10	10
Market Overton	106	15	10
Barrow	11	11	2
Whissendine	143	41	13
Greetham	9	100	2
Teigh	18	-	12
Exton	160	-	12
Horn	4	-	-
Tickencote	16	-	-
Cottesmore	96	-	16
Burley	37	-	26
Whitwell	-	17	3
Ashwell	62	-	1
Langham.	161	-	7
	<u>1153</u>	<u>216</u>	<u>138</u>

Drainage and Sewerage.

Number of Cesspools constructed during the year..... 15
Number of Cesspools abolished during the year..... 6
Total number on 31st. December, 1955..... 399

Attention was given and repairs were carried out as necessary during 1956 to the existing village drains and sewers at Langham, Market Overton, Whissendine and other villages. The new system of sewers and the sewage disposal works at Exton were completed and put into use during the year, and although all the properties were not connected during that time, this part of the work was well in hand at the end of 1956. At Langham, the new sewers and sewage disposal works were under construction, and the work well advanced by the close of the year. It is hoped that this much-needed improvement will be completed in the spring of 1957. A scheme for sewerage the villages of Cottesmore and Greetham was receiving attention by the Council during 1956, and the possibility of joint action with the R.A.F. Authorities, who wish to improve existing means of sewage disposal at the Cottesmore Aerodrome, was under consideration.

Closet Accommodation.

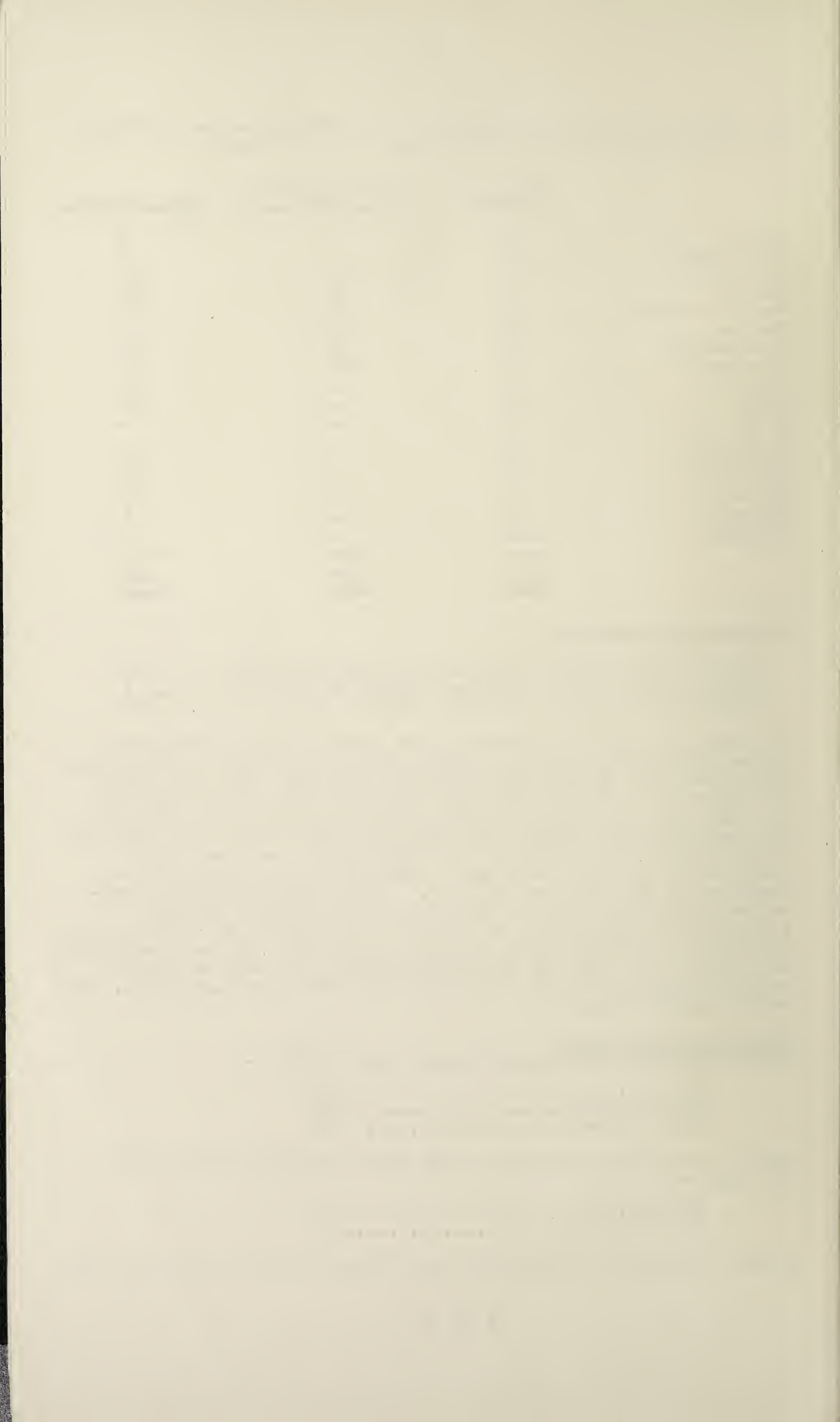
Total number in the District at the end of 1956 :-

Privies..... 10
Pail Closets 1345
Water Closets 832

Number of closets converted to the water carriage system during the year :-

Privies..... 2
Pail Closets 62

Number of privies converted to pail closets during the year.... Nil .



Public Cleansing.

Sixteen of the villages of the district, - Cottesmore, Exton, Barleythorpe, Empingham, Edith Weston, Langham, Market Overton, Greetham, Tickencote, Manton, Thistleton, Teigh, Whitwell, Braunston, Stretton and parts of Normanton, are now provided with regular collection of refuse carried out by Contractors on behalf of the Council. A partial removal is provided monthly in the nine parishes of Ashwell, Barrow, Whissendine, Brooke, Hambleton, Lyndon, Burley, Eggleton, and parts of Horn; and also at Gunthorpe at less frequent intervals. Weekly collections are also carried out by the Contractors on behalf of the Council at the Married Quarters of the R.A.F. Station at Cottesmore and Edith Weston.

With the exception of Market Overton, Braunston and parts of Barleythorpe and Normanton the first named sixteen villages are provided with a weekly scavenging system of night-soil also carried out by Contractors on behalf of the Council. There is, in addition a weekly scavenging system of nightsoil by Contractors at Barrow, Burley, Eggleton, Hambleton and Lyndon. The Council also arrange for the periodical emptying of the village septic tanks at Ashwell and Cottesmore, in addition to those on the various housing sites in this district and the three septic tanks at Empingham.

Since one of the four Contractors employed by the Council at the commencement of 1956 has now been replaced, very few complaints are being received in connection with the scavenging of the district, and the Council have for the time being deferred consideration of a scheme for refuse and nightsoil collection operated by direct labour, which they had in mind.

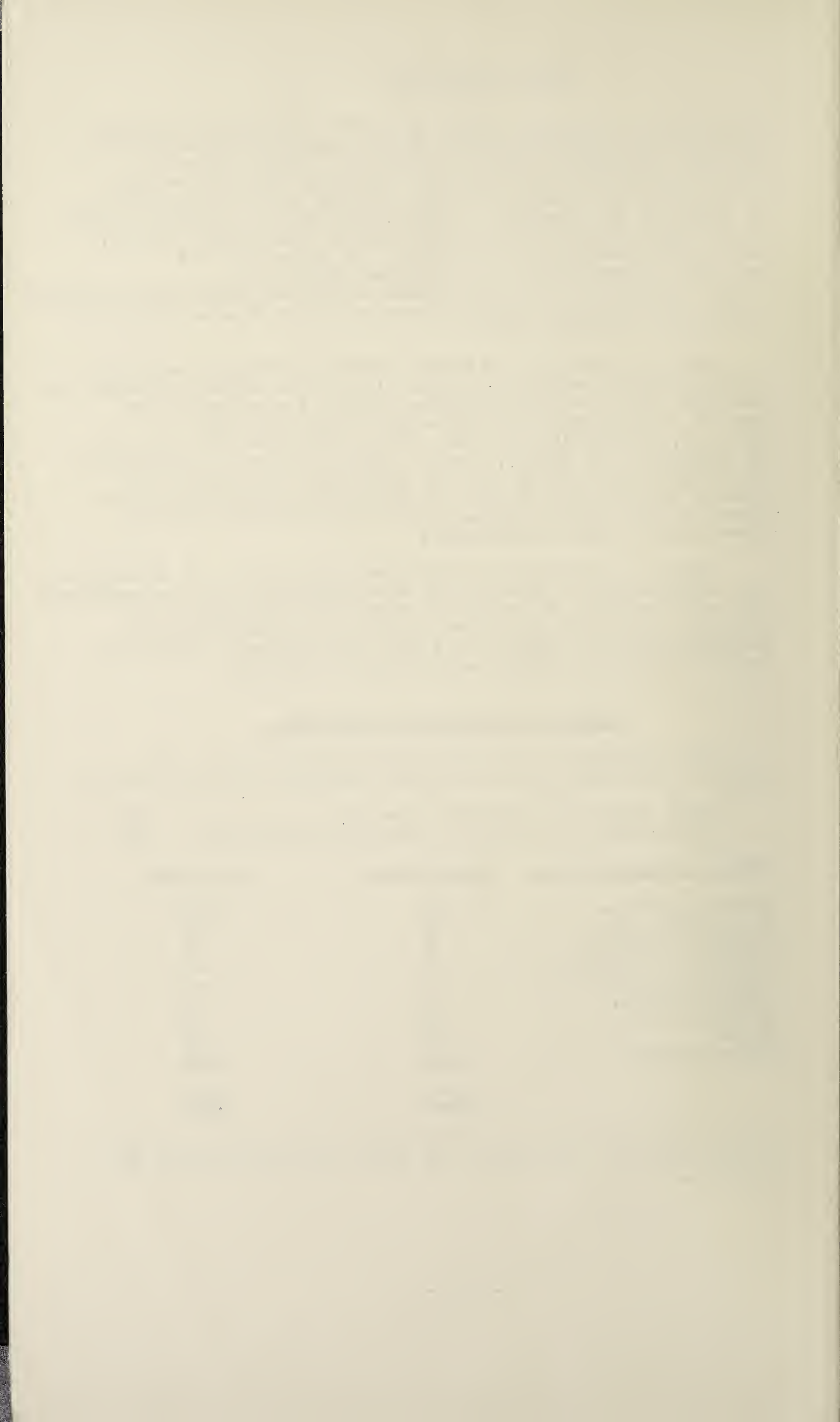
SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The particulars given under this heading are for all purposes including particulars given elsewhere in this report :-

Total number of complaints received.....	657
Total number of defects or nuisances discovered.	628

<u>Nature of Inspections.</u>	<u>Inspections.</u>	<u>Re-visits.</u>
Dwelling houses.	563	1265
Tents, Vans, Etc.,	6	18
Slaughter houses.	4	51
Dairies and Cowsheds.	1	15
Offensive trades.	-	-
Animal keeping.	8	22
Workshops, Etc.,	22	39
Shops.	33	71
Other premises.	<u>451</u>	<u>750</u>
	<u>1088</u>	<u>2231</u>

The Sanitary Inspector made 1318 visits to the various parishes of the district. In addition 26 visits were made outside the District.



Notices.

<u>Preliminary.</u>	<u>Housing.</u>	<u>Other.</u>
Outstanding 1st. January	3	2
Issued during the year.	234	285
Complied with during year.	235	283
Statutory action necessary.	-	-
Outstanding 31st. December.	2	4

<u>Statutory.</u>	<u>Housing.</u>	<u>Other.</u>
Outstanding 1st. January	11	-
Issued during the year.	Nil	2
Complied with during year.	1	2
Statutory Action necessary.	-	-
Outstanding 31st. December.	10	-

Shops.

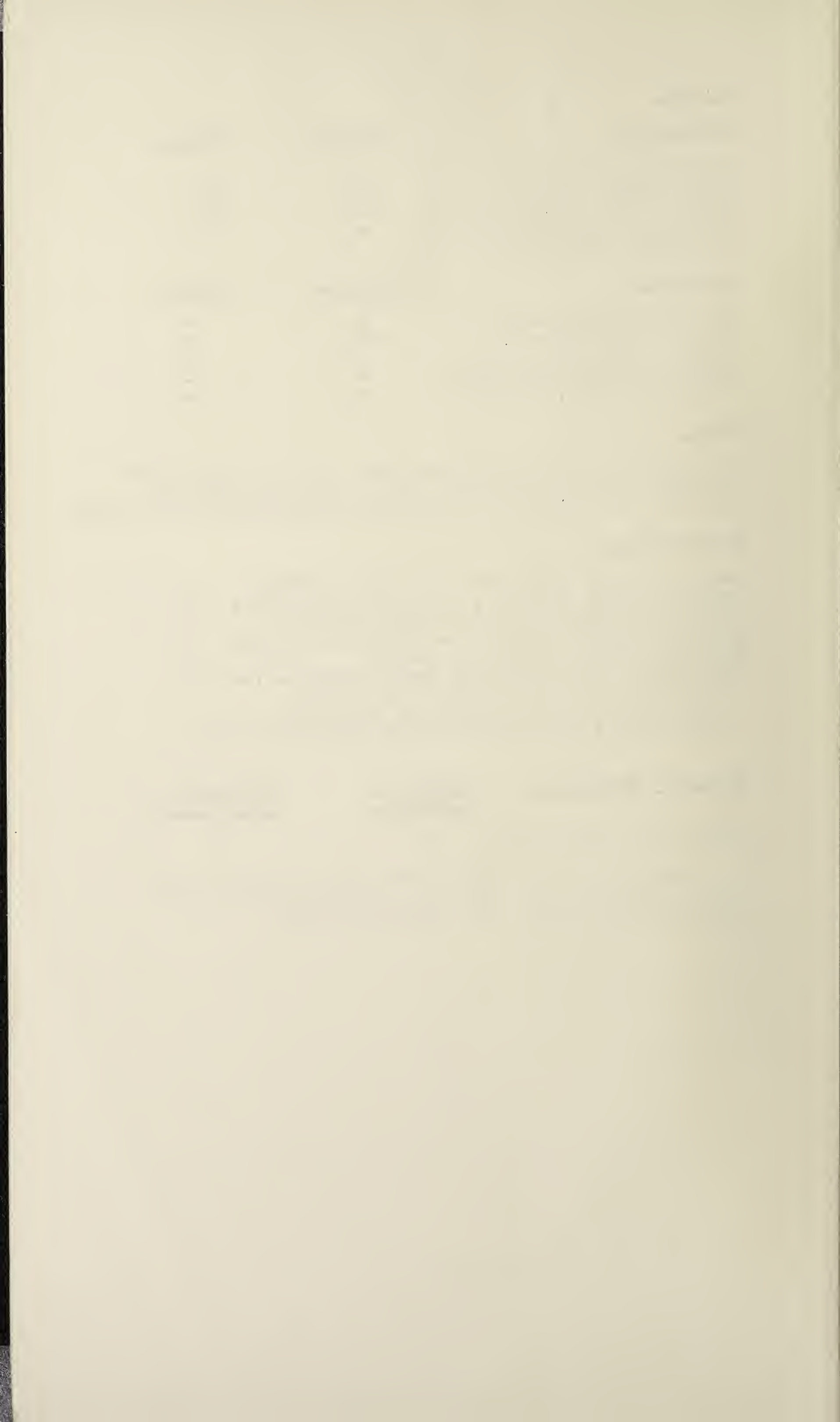
33 inspections and 71 re-visits were made to shops in the district during the year and action was taken under the Shops Act in respect of the sanitary arrangements at one Shop.

Camping Sites.

Number of sites in the area used for camping purposes during the year..... 6
Number of camping sites for which licences have been issued..... 4
Estimated maximum number of campers resident in the area during Summer months..... 16
(This figure does not include the campers resident in various officially organised Agricultural and Services Camps in the District).

<u>Regulated Buildings.</u>	<u>Number in District.</u>	<u>Number of Inspections.</u>
Tents, Vans, Sheds, Etc.,	6	18

During the course of 1956 the Council granted four temporary licences to owners of caravans for these to remain in the district for extended periods.



HOUSING.

In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health, the inclusion of details on housing matters in the Report of Medical Officers of Health is no longer necessary.

It may however be noted that another house was demolished in 1956 in pursuance of a Demolition Order, and grants for 36 improvements of property under the Housing Act 1949 were approved subject to satisfactory completion of works by the owners.

Following the decision of the Council to remove the tenants of the twelve Woolfox Hutments to other houses in the district, alternative accommodation was found for ten of these families in 1956, and arrangements were made to transfer the remaining two tenants to new houses at Greetham early in 1957.

Provision of New Houses during the Year.

During the year 1956, twenty houses were completed by the Council at Cottesmore and another twelve were under construction at Exton, seven of which had been completed and occupied by the end of the year. A further twelve houses were also being erected for the Council at Greetham, but were not ready for occupation during 1956. Nine houses were also completed for private owners.

The number of applicants for Council Houses on the Housing Register at the end of 1956 was 145.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

Number of Dairies (not being Farm Premises) on Register.....	1
Number of inspections of premises	15
Number of contraventions outstanding from previous year.....	-
Contraventions remedied during year.....	1
Number of contraventions outstanding 31st.Dec.	-

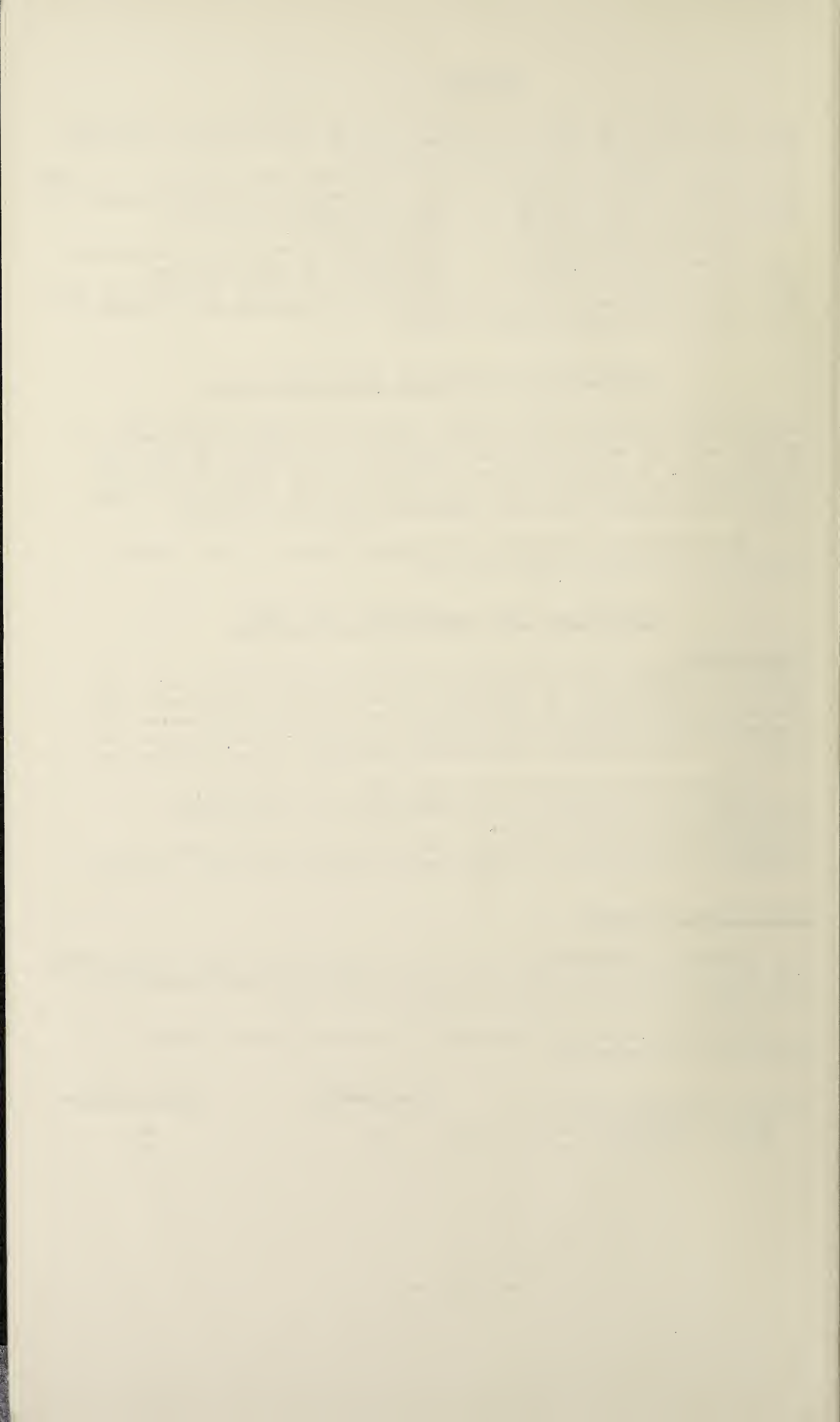
No ice cream is manufactured in this area for sale, but there are 10 premises on the Council's list from which pre-packed ice cream is sold.
A sample of milk taken from the only dairy (not being farm premises) in the Register proved quite satisfactory upon analysis.

Meat and Other Foods.

Seventeen inspections were made of Meat Shops, Meat Stores, Etc., and thirty-seven inspections and re-inspections of premises where food other than meat is kept or prepared for sale.

The usual method of disposing of condemned food in this district is by burning.

	<u>In Jan. 1956.</u>	<u>In Dec. 1956.</u>
Private Slaughter Houses :-		
Number registered	-	-
Number licensed	6	4



Only four of the Licences for slaughter houses in this District were renewed during 1956 and these buildings were maintained in a reasonably satisfactory condition.

Meat Inspection.

Although it has not been possible to inspect all animals killed in the slaughterhouses in this District during 1956, examinations of as many carcasses and organs as possible have been carried out.

The number of cattle, sheep and pigs slaughtered are as shown in the table below :-

	Beasts	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs.
Number Killed.	339	929	330
Number Inspected.	121	305	172
<u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis</u>			
(a) Whole carcasses condemned.	-	2	-
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	2	1	2
(c) Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis.	1.65%	0.98%	1.16%
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>			
(a) Whole Carcasses condemned.	-	-	-
(b) Carcasses of which some part of organ was condemned.	-	-	2
(c) Percentage of number inspected with tuberculosis.	-	-	1.16%
<u>Cysticercosis.</u>			
(a) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-
(b) Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	-	-	-
(c) Generalised and totally condemned.	-	-	-

Food Hygiene Regulations 1955.

The Food Hygiene Regulations which came into operation during the course of 1956 received the attention of the Council, and an inspection of all recognised food-shops in the District and those from which food might be sold was carried out. In a number of cases it was found that steps had already been taken to comply with the Regulations but some difficulty occurred in parishes where the Council's new Regional scheme of water supply had not been completed. By the end of the year however, piped water supplies from the Council's mains were available for use in these parishes, and practically all connections to the shops had been made. It was, however, necessary, to serve notice in writing to two shopkeepers, to obtain the improvements required under the new Regulations and bring the premises up to standard. No case of Food Poisoning was notified during the year.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 - Section 47 -
Removal to suitable premises of persons in
need of care and attention.

Investigations were made into a few cases but fortunately no legal action was necessary.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN YOUNG,
Medical Officer of Health.



